

*Q2*

~~a large control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to each other, said blades defining four quadrants of said fuel cell, each said quadrant containing only four fuel bundles; said plurality of fuel cells arranged so that said control rods are in a staggered row pattern where each side of each said quadrant of a fuel cell is adjacent to a control rod blade.~~

*C3 Sub 2*

*Q3*

~~10. (amended) A nuclear reactor core configuration, said core comprising a plurality of fuel bundles and a plurality of large control rods, each said control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to each other, said blades defining four fuel bundle receiving channels, said configuration comprising: said plurality of large fuel bundles arranged in a staggered row pattern; and said fuel bundles arranged with only four fuel bundles in each said receiving channel.~~

Remarks

The Office Action dated November 30, 2001 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12, and 13 are pending in this application. Claims 1-13 stand rejected. Claims 3, 7, and 11 have been canceled.

Submitted herewith is a Submission Of Marked Up Claims in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Submitted herewith for approval are new Figures 2 and 3 with the legend Prior Art.

Applicants respectfully traverse the suggestion in the Office Action that Figure 1 is prior art because "only that which is old is illustrated". The present application describes Applicants'